

FAX RECEIVED

APR 26 2002

GROUP 3700

<b>Office of Intellectual Property Counsel</b> <b>3M Innovative Properties Company</b>	<b>3M Center, PO Box 33427</b> <b>St. Paul, MN 55133-3427 USA</b>
THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION MAY CONTAIN CONFIDENTIAL OR LEGALLY PRIVILEGED INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE PERSON OR ENTITY NAMED BELOW.	
If you are not the intended recipient, please do not read, use, disclose, distribute or copy this transmission.	
If this transmission was received in error, please immediately notify Sue Dacko by telephone directly at (651) 736-4638 and we will arrange for its return at no cost to you. Thank you.	

**FACSIMILE**

Date: April 26, 2002  
Number of pages  
including cover sheet: 31

To:  
**Tech Center 3700**  
**Group Art Unit 3761**

Your Ref: 09/680,465  
Phone:  
Fax No. (703) 872-9302

From:  
**Karl G. Hanson**

Our Ref: 48317US028  
Phone: (651) 736-7776  
Fax No. (651) 736-3833

**Remarks:**

Attached are the following:

1. Amendment
2. Affidavit of David M. Castiglione
3. Declaration of Robert Betts
4. Declaration of John L. Bowers
5. Affidavit of Frank J. Fabin

le/D  
B. Webb  
4/30/02



Case No.: 48317US028

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.  
Application No.: 09/680465 Group Art Unit: 3761  
Filed: October 6, 2000 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis  
Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW  
UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION	
To Fax No.: 703-872-9302	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:	
April 26, 2002	
Date	Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action mailed January 28, 2002. Please amend this application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 33 as follows:

33. A filtering face mask that comprises:
- (a) a mask body that is adapted to fit over the nose and mouth of a wearer; and
  - (b) an exhalation valve that is positioned on the mask body substantially opposite to a wearer's mouth, the exhalation valve comprising:
    - (1) a valve seat that comprises:
      - (i) a seal surface;
      - (ii) an orifice that is circumscribed by the seal surface; and
      - (iii) cross members that extend across the orifice to create a plurality of openings within the orifice; and
    - (2) a single flexible flap that has a fixed portion and only one free portion and first and second opposing ends, the first end of the single flexible flap being associated with the fixed portion of the flap so as to remain at rest during an exhalation, and the